

SOUTH MIDDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT
4 Academy Street, Boiling Springs, PA 17007

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2021

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on October 18, 2021. The South Middleton Board of School Directors met in the District Office Board Room. Mrs. Knouse called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Secretary called the roll with all members present except as designated:

School Directors

Mr. John Greenbaum
Mr. Brad Group
Mr. William Hartman
Mrs. Stacey Knavel- Absent
Mrs. Elizabeth Knouse

Mrs. Denise MacIvor
Mrs. Elizabeth Meikrantz
Mrs. Bethanne Sellers- Absent
Mr. Jonathan Still

Administrative Staff

Mr. James Estep, Superintendent
Mr. Alex Smith, Director of Student Services

Student Representatives

Ajla Salkic – Absent
Jake Sokolofsky

Visitors

See attached

Board Secretary

Cristeen Beck

Solicitor

Gareth Pahowka- Absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, to approve the agenda of October 18, 2021, with all correction as indicated.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. MacIvor, that the Board approves the minutes of the following meeting: 10/04/2021 – Planning/Regular Board Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Knouse announced an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss Personnel from 6-7pm.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS – Mr. Estep introduced new staff member Mr. Ryan Frey- Supervisor of Building & Grounds. Noted that today was first day for Carlesha Halkias- Director of HR and Lindsay King- Assistant Business Manager who will attend meeting in early November.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) – None

PRESIDENT’S REPORT/COMMITTEE REPORTS/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS/STUDENT REPORTS –

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT –

Jake Sokolofsky- Student Representative, reported on Fall sports that Golf did very well in State Championship. Football had great game on Friday against Middletown. Cross County teams won this past weekend. Field Hockey, Boys Soccer, and Volleyball are all doing very well. BSHS play- Fairytale Courtroom is currently casting.

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS – Mr. Estep commented that Mrs. Darchicourt will start on November 8. Board can reach out to Lindsay Kint in the meantime with any questions.

SUPPORT SERVICES REPORTS – Mr. Alex Smith- Director of Student Services

shared report on beginning of school year- had Student Services tour in the buildings. Expanding mental health services for students with the Growing Edges Program through Shippensburg University. Introduced Dr. Chelshea Pruznak- School Psychologist and Mrs. Angelina Romano- School Social Worker. Supporting student attendance, assisting families in connecting with support for financial concerns, health issues, and basic needs. Thanked Board for their support in creating this position.

Dr. Chelshea Pruznak- School Psychologist, shared an overview on school psychology and services provided to the district. Highlighted School Psychology week and upcoming dinner event on Friday, November 12.

Mrs. Angelina Romano- School Social Worker, shared her focus of goals in her role. Highlighted connections to community resources and home visits. Collaborates with other school social workers.

Mr. Greenbaum thanked Mr. Smith for advocating for the social worker position.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT- Mr. James Estep- Superintendent, shared an update on the cyber school budget and actively tracking budget and may have surplus. Have been working with Human Resources and Business Office to review personnel files, payroll, and clearances to rectify any issues. Commented on Mr. Smith and his staff and importance on supporting students so they can learn.

Mrs. Knouse commented on past presentation from Dr. Withum about social workers.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz, to approve the consent agenda.

Financial Reports

10.1 That the Board approves payment of General Fund bills represented by checks 61933 to 62003 in the amount of \$861,868.62, as represented in the attached summary.

10.2 That the Board approves payment of Activity Fund bills represented by checks 16763 to 16767 in the amount of \$5,307.80, as represented in the attached summary.

10.3 That the Board approves payment of Athletic Fund bills represented by checks 22522 to 22540 in the amount of \$26,828.25, as represented in the attached summary.

10.4 That the Board approves payment of Cafeteria Fund bills represented by check 7298 in the amount of \$74,563.92, as represented in the attached summary.

10.5 No checks disbursed from Capital Reserve Fund bills during this time period.

10.6 That the Board approves payment of Construction Fund bills represented by checks 1296 to 1301 in the amount of \$98,486.43, as represented in the attached summary.

10.7 No checks disbursed from Scholarship Fund bills during this time period.

10.8 That the Board approves VISA transactions 1 to 153 in the amount of \$23,979.67, as represented in the attached summary.

Policies- Second/Final Reading

Second/Final Reading- Policy 109- Resource Materials

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 109- Resource Materials.

(Policy revised with updated language and school code legal citations)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 110- Instructional Supplies

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 110- Instructional Supplies.

(Policy revised with legal review of language)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 113- Special Education

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 113- Special Education.

(Policy revised with legal review of language and updates to school code citations)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 113.1- Discipline of Students with Disabilities

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 113.1- Discipline of Students with Disabilities.

(Policy revised with PSBA update from 9/2020 - Positive Behavior Support Plans and guidelines for records compliance)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 113.2- Positive Behavior Support

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 113.2- Positive Behavior Support.

(Policy revised with PSBA 9/2020 updates to language)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 113.4- Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading/Adoption of Policy 113.4- Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information

(This is a new Policy from PSBA)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 114- Gifted Education

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 114- Gifted Education.

(Policy revised to reflect PDE's current guidelines on Caseloads and updated language)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 115- Career and Technical Education

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 115- Career and Technical Education.

(Policy revised to update language and name change of Cumberland-Perry Area Career and Technical Center)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 117 - Homebound Instruction

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 117- Homebound Instruction.

(Policy revised with updated legal language)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 118- Dual Enrollment/Independent Study

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 118- Dual Enrollment/Independent Study.

(Policy revised with updated school code legal citations/language)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 236- Student Assistance Program

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading/Adoption of Policy 236- Student Assistance.

(PSBA policy that is recommended for adoption)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 201- Admission of Students

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 201- Admission of Students.

(Policy revised to update Kindergarten admission age)

Second/Final Reading- Policy 006- Meetings

That the Board approves the Second/Final Reading of revised Policy 006- Meetings.

(Policy revised to modify agenda format)

Retire- Policy 109.1- Library Collection Development

That the Board approves retiring Policy 109.1- Library Collection Development.

(Adopt as an Administrative Regulation)

Personnel- Uncompensated Leave Request

That the Board approves the following Uncompensated Leave Request:

- Erin Brenner - 10/29/21, 11/09/21 (AM), 11/12/21, 12/14/21, 12/22/21

Personnel- Co-Curriculars

That the Board approves the following- Personnel- Co-Curriculars for the 2021-2022 School Year:

- David Bandura - Middle School Student Council - \$750.00
- Jayne Korzi - Middle School Student Council - \$750.00
- Angela Doland - Middle School Student Council - \$750.00

Personnel- Extra Duty- Homework Help/Detention Monitors

That the Board approves the following Personnel- Extra Duty- Homework Help/Detention Monitors (as needed) at the rate established in the collective bargaining agreement:

- Kris Kline
- Marylin Julius
- Brian Rohm
- Heather Kuffa
- Kara Dayhoff

The motion passed unanimously.

Itemized Agenda:

Amended Act 93 Agreement

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the amended Act 93 Agreement.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz to move 11b-11f as a Block motion:

Mrs. MacIvor asked Mr. Estep about job description reviews and title changes and when to expect full review.

Mr. Estep responded that full analysis will be completed with new Director of HR with goal of being completed by the end of the year.

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz to move 11b-11c as a Block motion:

Amended Support Staff Agreement

That the Board approves the amended Support Staff Agreement.

Job Description- Executive Assistant

That the Board approves the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Job Description.

The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel - Position Change- Administrative

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the following Personnel- Position Change:

Cristeen Beck - Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent (Support Staff Tier 6) to Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (Act 93 Staff Tier 5) - \$58,000/year, effective 10/04/2021

Mr. Hartman commented that Cristeen has been employed for one year and should review all positions.

On a roll call vote, the motion passed as follows:

Mrs. MacIvor-Yes

Mr. Group-Yes

Mrs. Meikrantz-Yes

Mr. Hartman-No

Mrs. Sellers-Absent

Mrs. Knavel-Absent

Mr. Still-Yes

Mrs. Knouse-Yes

Mr. Greenbaum-Yes

Yes –6, No –1, Abstentions- 0, Absent - 2

Job Description- Transportation Coordinator

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the Transportation Coordinator Job Description.

On a roll call vote, the motion passed as follows:

Mrs. MacIvor-Yes	Mr. Group-Yes
Mrs. Meikrantz-Yes	Mr. Hartman-Yes
Mrs. Sellers-Absent	Mrs. Knavel-Absent
Mr. Still-Yes	Mrs. Knouse- Yes
Mr. Greenbaum-Yes	

Yes –7, No –0, Abstentions- 0, Absent - 2

Personnel - Position Change- Classified

Mr. Greenbaum made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Meikrantz that the Board approves the following position change:

Robin Biggs - Transportation Secretary (Support Staff Tier 8) to Transportation Coordinator (Support Staff Tier 6), no change in salary, effective 10/04/2021

On a roll call vote, the motion passed as follows:

Mrs. MacIvor-Yes	Mr. Group-Yes
Mrs. Meikrantz-Yes	Mr. Hartman-No
Mrs. Sellers-Absent	Mrs. Knavel-Absent
Mr. Still-Yes	Mrs. Knouse-No
Mr. Greenbaum-Yes	

Yes –5, No –2, Abstentions- 0, Absent -2

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION-

Letty McDonough 1636 Leidigh Drive
Inquired about Diversity & Inclusivity Committee.

Mr. Estep responded that as of right now there is no working being done to advance the JEDI initiative. There is possibility in future for discussion. Societal issues are regularly discussed in classes. D&I work will remain on pause as work is done on staffing and district system issues.

Tanya Morret- 22 Enck Drive
Commented on excitement about School Social Worker. Inquired about status of ARP ESSER Grant Process and stakeholder group.
Mr. Estep confirmed the community will be engaged at the appropriate time.

Julie White- 307 Forge Road Rear
Commented on CRT and concerns with recent approvals for curriculum. Question about dress code concern from past meeting.
Mr. Estep responded on dress code and priority- discussed timeline and process for reviewing.
Mr. Estep responded to CRT concern with outline of PA School Code Chapter 4. Currently there is nothing in school code to require that curriculum. Noted there may be curriculum standards in the social sciences that discuss certain issues.

Mrs. Knouse commented on consistency on dress codes from building to building.

BOARD COMMENTS-

Mrs. Meikrantz commented that Dr. Sessoms was not hired to teach staff CRT.
Mr. Group commented on Mrs. Romano and positive impact of position.
Mr. Hartman highlighted fall student athletes and potential of hosting playoff games. October 21 is the Halloween Parade.
Mr. Greenbaum commented on previous discussion on social workers in schools.
Mrs. Knouse commented on loss of Colin Powell today and a quote: "Leadership is solving problems". Grateful for leadership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

October/November 2021 Board Calendar

Monday, October 25, 2021- Policy Committee Meeting - 5:00 PM

Monday, October 25, 2021- Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting- 6:00 PM

Monday, November 1, 2021- Planning/Regular Board Meeting- 7:00 PM

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Wednesday, November 10, 2021- Safety & Security Committee Meeting- 6:00 PM

Monday, November 15, 2021- Regular Board Meeting- 7:00 PM

Thursday, November 18, 2021- Facilities Committee Meeting- 6:00 PM

Mrs. MacIvor commented on Enrollment Report and decrease in cyber enrollment and congratulated administrative team on those achievements.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hartman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Greenbaum, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cristeen Beck
Board Secretary

Public Attendance

Carrie Snyder-Evans

Ben Reisinger

Brandee Reisinger

Brittany Guiles

Andrew Fisher

Robin Biggs

Julie White

Tanya Morret

Dean Clepper

Anna Foster

Anne Ganoë

Bobbi Goodyear

Terry McDonough

Letty McDonough

Frank Neumayer

Carol Neumayer